

STMA expands member benefits by adding Plant Management Network

STMA has added Plant Management Network (PMN) as a benefit of membership. Access to all that PMN offers is now available to the entire STMA membership, at no additional charge. This online network offers applied, science-based resources for agricultural and horticultural professionals including those who work with turfgrass. PMN is jointly managed by the American Society of Agronomy, American Phytopathological Society, and Crop Science Society of America, and has partnerships with more than 80 organizations including STMA, universities, other nonprofits, and agribusinesses.

STMA members have access to PMN's many turfgrass and turf-inclusive resources, which include:

- Applied Turfgrass Science
- Plant Disease Management Reports
- Arthropod Management Tests
- The PMN Image Database
- PMN's Plant Science Database
- PMN's Partner Extension Search

All of the resources above are relevant to turf managers.

This month we will feature *Applied Turfgrass Science* (ATS) and highlight specific examples of how it can benefit sports turf managers. ATS seeks to serve the turfgrass profession by providing timely and relevant research information in an easily accessible format. It is a multidisciplinary science-based journal covering all aspects of turfgrass management that is both

peer-reviewed and fully citable. The peer review process is rigorous and has an average acceptance rate of 58% over the past 3 years. This means that ATS meets the scientific standard of other quality agricultural journals, while at the same time serving the end-user.

Noted below are three examples of articles recently added to ATS that will help members



with their field management programs. A link to PMN appears on STMA's members-only page so that you can access the full article and all of the resources that PMN offers.

Heavy Sand and Crumb Rubber Topdressing Improves Kentucky Bluegrass Wear Tolerance.

Sand topdressing and crumb rubber can be used to improve native soil athletic field playability. However, there is a wide range in the physical properties, price, and availability of these materials. The objective of this field research was to evaluate the effects of various topdressing materials on the autumn wear tolerance and surface stability of a well established Kentucky bluegrass stand. (Read more by logging onto STMA.org Members-Only.)

By: Alexander R. Kowalewski, Abraham

Baldwin Agricultural College, and Jeff C. Dunne, John N. Rogers III, and James R. Crum, Michigan State University

Bermudagrass Cultivars Differ in Their Summer Traffic Tolerance and Ability to Maintain Green Turf Coverage Under Fall Traffic.

Bermudagrass is one of the most widely used turfgrass species for golf courses and sports fields in the southern United States and in the transitional climatic zone. Continuous trafficking from play or equipment can reduce bermudagrass coverage and turf quality. This study evaluated 42 bermudagrass cultivars

for their response to traffic. (Read more by logging onto STMA.org Members-Only.)

By Jon M. Trappe, Aaron J. Patton, Purdue University; and Michael D. Richardson, University of Arkansas

Salinity Tolerance of Cool-Season Turfgrass Cultivars Under Field Conditions.

In order to utilize effluent or wastewater as irrigation on turfgrass sites it will require the identification of cool-season turfgrass cultivars with increased salinity tolerance. Evaluation of current cultivars and experimental selections for salinity tolerance is an important first step in making information available to turfgrass managers. (Read more by logging onto STMA.org Members-Only.)

By Matthew J. Koch and Stacy A. Bonos, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey ■

Getting Revved Up for Daytona Beach

By STMA Staff

IN JANUARY 2013, the 24th Annual STMA Conference and Exhibition will be in Daytona Beach, FL for the first time. The majority of the events will be at the Ocean Center, 400 feet from the Atlantic Ocean, and at the headquarters hotel, the Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort, which is adjacent to the convention center and directly on the beach. The 744-guestroom resort is part of a \$1 billion entertainment district called the Ocean Walk Village, and the resort itself boasts seven restaurants and lounges, is just minutes from Daytona International Airport and many other attractions in the area, including the entertainment district at the Ocean Walk Shoppes.

The Daytona Beach area is only an hour's

drive to the greater Orlando area and its attractions, as well as an hour from St. Augustine and the Kennedy Space Center. Daytona International Airport is serviced daily by both Delta and US Airways, but Orlando International Airport is only an hour away and Jacksonville is nearby as well, providing easy access from anywhere in the US.

Daytona Beach is part of the Orlando-Deltona-Daytona Beach Combined Statistical Area, which is the 17th largest CSA in the U.S. with more than 2.2 million residents. The average high in January is 68 degrees, which is warm enough to take in 23 miles of beach within the city limits, 11 miles of which is drivable.

Speaking of driving, most people associate

the area with automobiles and racing. Daytona Beach is home to NASCAR's world headquarters and Daytona International Speedway, the 2.5-mile super-speedway, which is less than 5 miles from the hotel and convention center. It certainly lives up to its billing as the "World Center of Racing" as it is involved in some type of high-speed activity every day for more than four months of the year [DASH HERE] from NASCAR Sprint Cup Series stock cars (Daytona 500 and Coke Zero 400 Powered by Coca-Cola) to sports cars (Rolex 24 At Daytona) to motorcycles (Daytona 200 By Honda) and go-carts (World Karting Association). Daytona International Speedway tours are available daily, but STMA will be host-

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ing a behind the scenes tour as part of our Seminar on Wheels at the conference (additional fee will apply).

Another way to drive in Daytona Beach is from the tee. Named a "Top 15 Golfing Destination in the U.S." by *Golf Digest* and home to the LPGA headquarters, the area offers more than 30 championship golf courses nearby. These traditional "Florida" courses include some particularly challenging layouts by designers such as

For more information on the STMA Conference and Exhibition, please visit www.STMA.org/conferences.

Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Rees Jones, Arthur Hills, Lloyd Clifton, Donald Ross and others. No matter if you are a novice or scratch golfer, you'll love the variety in our golf courses and will appreciate the magnificent layouts that offer plenty of challenging and spectacular natural beauty.

The area also offers excellent deep-sea fishing. Record size marlin and other fish are abundant in the Atlantic Ocean. Deep-sea fishing charters depart from several marinas daily. Half- and full-day trips are available and include all the bait and gear necessary to catch the "big ones." Charter boat companies take their passengers to favored fishing spots to catch red snapper, grouper and other native fish. Fresh water fishing is also popular. Other outdoor activities include canoeing, camping, sailing,

water skiing, jet skiing, surfing, paddle boarding, SCUBA diving, racquet sports, horseback riding, and of course, relaxing on the beach.

As you can see, the Daytona Beach area offers easy access, a tremendous amount of activities for families and groups, natural beauty and all the entertainment, shopping and nightlife you've come to expect from an STMA Conference destination. The Association is looking forward to making Daytona a fantastic event for you, your staff and possibly your family. See you next January.

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For more information on Daytona Beach, please visit its Convention and Visitors Bureau website at www.daytonabeach.com. ■